

AS

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 96-358-C - ORDER NO. 97-48 ✓
JANUARY 15, 1997

IN RE: Request of AT&T Communications of the) ORDER
Southern States, Inc. for Arbitration) GRANTING
of its Interconnection Agreement with) PARTICIPATION
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.)

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the "Commission") on the filing of a Special Appearance to Petition for Declaratory Relief or, in the Alternative, Petition to Intervene ("Petition") by BellSouth Advertising & Publishing Corporation ("BAPCO").

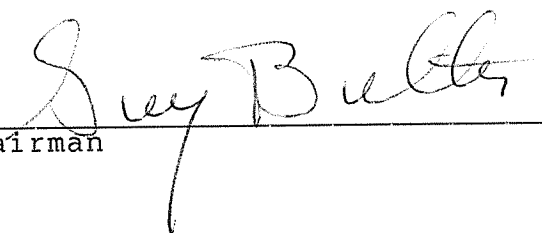
The Petition for Arbitration that AT&T Communications of the Southern States, Inc. ("AT&T") filed at the inception of this docket requested that AT&T be allowed to appear on the cover of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s ("BellSouth's") directory. BAPCO is a publisher of telephone directories in certain South Carolina towns and cities. In its Petition, BAPCO requested that this Commission issue a decision that it (the Commission) will not arbitrate any issues concerning telephone directory publication in the Arbitration scheduled for hearing on February 3, 1997, in this Docket. BAPCO asserted that it may not be subjected to mandatory Arbitration under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Act"), and that issues related to directory publication are not subject

to Arbitration under the Act regardless of the parties involved. In the alternative, BAPCO requested that it be allowed to intervene in the Arbitration hearing before the Commission in this Docket. BAPCO filed a Memorandum in supports of its Petition, and AT&T replied to BAPCO's Petition.

The Commission has now examined this matter, and holds that BAPCO be allowed to participate in the Arbitration proceeding in this Docket in a manner consistent with the status afforded the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina in a prior Arbitration Docket. BAPCO will not be a party of record, and its participation will be limited to making opening and closing statements, and submitting proposed questions to the Arbitrator on or before January 27, 1997.

This matter shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)